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RAINFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL
REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the year
1957

F. W. BUNTING, M.B.E., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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1.

RAINFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1957

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: J.R. AUSTIN, ESQ., J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: J. SMITH, ESQ.

CHAIRMAN OF TOWN PLANNING AND HEALTH
COMMITTEE

Mr. J. Molyneux

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mrs. S. Heyes

CHAIRMAN OF HOUSING COMMITTEE

Mr. E. Wainwright

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr. H. Webster

MEMBERS

Mr. S. Leighton

Mr. J.R. Rosbotham

Mr. R.L. Alcock

Mr. S. Lewis

Mr. R. Rose

Mr. S. Abbott

Mr. R. Webster, C.C.

Mr. W.S. Darlington

Mr. R.R. Bowdler

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: G. WALKER, ESQ.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

F.W. BUNTING, M.B.E., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

R.C. HAYCOCK, A.R.S.I., A.M.Inst.H.E.

Clerk

Mrs. R.J. Pennington

2.

Council Offices,

RAINFORD.

July, 1958.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RAINFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you the 27th Annual Report on the health of Rainford for the year ending 31st December, 1957.

I am again glad to report that the health of the community has remained satisfactory during the year.

The adjusted death rate of 12.2 compares favourably with previous years and showed a reduction compared with 1956 which was 13.6.

The birth rate has shown a decrease being 16.9 compared with 18.5 for the year 1956.

The death rate amongst children under the age of one year (infant mortality) has shown an increase being 39 per 1,000 live births compared with 24 per 1,000 live births during 1956. The average over the past five years was 29.2 per 1,000 live births. Six infants died during the year.

There has been a marked increase in the number of infectious diseases but this was attributed almost entirely to a measles epidemic. 87 cases were notified during the year 1957 compared with 34 during 1956. Seven cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year.

I am again happy to report that no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis have been notified and am also happy to report that for the tenth successive year there were no maternal deaths.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

F.W. BUNTING

Medical Officer of Health.

3.
STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,877
Registrar General's estimate of population mid-1957	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,430
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1957) according to Rate Book	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,490
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£36,809
Product of a Penny Rate..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£153. 6. 9d.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births		Deaths All Causes		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality	
No registered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total births
Year 1957 77	16.9	46	12.2	2	25	Nil	Nil
" 1956 83	18.5	50	13.6	Nil	Nil	-	-
" 1955 66	15.2	53	13.7	2	29	-	-
" 1954 85	19.7	56	14.6	2	23	-	-
" 1953 84	19.3	48	12.3	2	23	-	-
" 1952 63	15.2	35	11.3	3	45	-	-
Average 5 yrs. 1952 - 1956.	17.6	-	13.1	-	24	-	-

INFANT MORTALITY

Total		Neo-Natal	
No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1957	3	2	26
" 1956	2	1	12
" 1955	1	-	-
" 1954	3	2	24
" 1953	2	2	24
" 1952	3	1	16
Average 5 years 1952 - 1956	29.2	-	15.2

Adjusted live birth rate (comparability factor 0.97) - 16.9 per 1,000

Adjusted death rate (comparability factor 1.18) - 12.2 per 1,000

DETAILS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Total	M	F
Legitimate	77	39	38
Illegitimate	-	-	-
TOTAL	77	39	38

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1957 - 16.9.

Deaths	Total	M	F
TOTAL	46	25	21

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1957 - 12.2.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion - Nil.
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - Nil.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

All infants per 1,000 live births - 39

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births - 39.

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births - Nil.

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age - 2

Mortality rate per 1,000 live births - 26

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1957 FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Birth and death rates, together with case rates for certain infectious diseases,
for England and Wales in the year 1957

Provisional figures based on Registrar-General's Weekly and Quarterly Returns

Estimated home population mid-1957

44,907,000

	No.	Rate per 1,000 home population
Births		
Live Births	722,952	16.1
Stillbirths	16,554	(0.37
		(22.4 (a)
Deaths		
All causes	514,946	11.5
Tuberculosis (all forms)	4,784	0.11
Respiratory	4,250	0.09
Non-respiratory	534	0.01
Cancer (all forms)	94,007	2.09
Lung and Bronchus	19,118	0.43
Other cancer	74,889	1.67
Maternal mortality (total)	349	0.47 (a)
Maternal causes (excluding abortion)	288	0.39 (a)
Due to abortion	61	0.08 (a)
Infant Mortality	16,641	23.0 (b)
Neo-natal mortality	11,904	16.5 (b)
<u>Notifications (corrected)</u>		
Typhoid Fever	123	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	310	0.01
Meningococcal infection	1,031	0.02
Scarlet Fever	29,544	0.66
Whooping Cough	85,004	1.89
Diphtheria	40	0.00
Erysipelas	3,585	0.08
Smallpox	4	0.00
Measles	633,596	14.11
Acute pneumonia	32,697	0.73
Acute poliomyelitis -		
Paralytic	3,175	0.07
Non-paralytic	1,666	0.04
Acute encephalitis -		
Infective	170	0.00
Post infectious	155	0.00
Dysentery	28,898	0.64
Food poisoning	9,146	0.20
Puerperal pyrexia	11,831	0.26
Tuberculosis -		
Respiratory	29,310	0.65
Meninges & C.N.S.	326	0.01
Other	3,481	0.08

(a) per 1,000 total (live and still) births

(b) per 1,000 live births

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

There have been no major changes in the General Health Services during the year.

The Child Welfare and Ante-natal clinics which are run by the Lancashire County Council continue to be much appreciated by mothers in Rainford and are well attended.

A very successful children's party was again held in the Village Hall at Christmas Time, the hall being very kindly loaned by courtesy of the Rainford U.D.C.

ImmunisationImmunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

This is the responsibility of the local Divisional Health Committee. Immunisation is available against diphtheria alone, or against diphtheria and whooping cough, or against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus by the use of combined vaccines.

Poliomyelitis immunisation

During the year vaccination against poliomyelitis was made available at the clinic. 325 children completed the course of injections and 6 children received one injection only.

Dysentery

There were no cases of dysentery notified during the year.

Scarlet Fever

There were no cases of scarlet fever notified during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

It is anticipated that in the future the water undertaking will be taken over by St. Helens Corporation.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The present sewage works at Rookery Lane and Berringtons Lane continue to show good effluent but as the works are getting older and more houses have been erected, maintenance of these works presents an increasing problem.

Sewerage Requirements

There are two sewage works, one situated in Berringtons Lane which serves modern property fronting St. Helens Road, and this is capable of extension. The sewage works at Rookery Lane serves Rainford Village. The main sewer is capable of extension to take sewage from portions of the North End.

At the end of the year schemes for Crank and the North End sewerage were practically complete and discussions were continuing with the Ministry of Health.

Closet Accommodation

<u>Type</u>	<u>No.</u>
Pails....	43
Wet closets with ashpits .	183
Dry Ashpits...	2
Fresh water closets	1344
Ashbins..	1280

Public Cleansing

This continues to be one of the Council's biggest problems due to the scattered nature of the district and lack of adequate tipping facilities. Expenditure is high and it is difficult to know how to effect further economies without losing efficiency.

There are seasonal increases in the contents of bins with the consequence that bin collecting and privy emptying have to suffer.

Ashpit Privy conversion

During the year 4 privy closets were converted to fresh water closets. This leaves approximately 183 to be converted.

HOUSING

8 unfit houses, Bartons Row, Ormskirk Road, were purchased by the Council and demolished. A scheme is in hand for the erection of further Council houses on the site.

The following properties are unfit and are scheduled for demolition.

10 Mackies Terrace
6 Crank Hill
2 Victoria Street

During the year 22 Council houses were completed..

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Shops

The Shops Act, 1934 and Shops Act, 1950, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences are administered by the Urban District Council.

No. of Food Premises, by type, registered
in the District at 31.12.57

Type of Business	No. registered at 31.12.57	No. of inspections of registered premises during the year
Grocery and General	22	22
Butchers shops	3	9
Fish and Chip	2	2
Fish and Fruit	2	6
Fruit	1	8
Bakery and Confectionery	2	21

Action has been taken in several cases to obtain improvement of premises under the Clean Food Act.

Disposal of Condemned Food(a) Carcase Meat

A certificate of disposal is obtained from the butcher and the carcase is sent by him to a specialist firm who make up condemned meat into purposes other than for human consumption.

(b) Other Foods

These are disposed of on the Council refuse tip and buried to a suitable depth.

Slaughterhouse and meat inspections

One slaughterhouse was in operation during the year and regular inspections of this and the carcasses were made.

Milk Supply

The Milk and Dairies Regulations
1949 - 1954

No. of Distributors registered by the local authority and operating from:

(a) Dairies in the District	8
(b) Shops in the District other than dairies	1
(c) Premises outside the District	3

Time and attention is devoted to this important subject with a view to providing and maintaining a pure and safe milk supply.

Inspections of premises to ensure a pure milk supply were continued during the year and 41 informal samples were taken.

Communal Feeding

The cooking centre in Alfred Street has been inspected and found to be constantly in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901
& FACTORIES ACT 1937 AND 1948

No change has occurred in the number of factories and workshops within the district since last year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year the total number of notifications of infectious diseases received was 87.

Whooping Cough

There were 15 cases of whooping cough compared with 6 during the year 1956.

Measles

There was a marked increase in the number of cases of measles. 70 cases were notified compared with 19 cases during the previous year.

Diphtheria

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year and it is now 12 years since a case was notified in the district.

THE FOLLOWING IS A TABLE OF NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING
THE YEAR 1957

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases at all ages	Age Periods - Years									Age Unknown
		0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 & over	
Smallpox											
Scarlet Fever											
Diphtheria											
(including membranous croup)											
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding paratyphoid)											
Paratyphoid Fever											
Measles (excluding rubella)	70	1	13	19	37						
Whooping Cough	15	1	12	1	1						
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	2						1		1		
Puerperal Pyrexia											
Meningococcal infection											
Acute poliomyelitis											
Paralytic											
Non-paralytic											
Acute encephalitis											
Infective											
Post-infectious											
Dysentery											
Ophthalmia neonatorum											
Erysipelas											
(contracted											
Malaria(in England											
(and Wales											
(Abroad											
Food Poisoning											
Any other diseases notifiable in district e.g.											
Chickenpox											
Any other disease (specify)											
Totals	87	2	25	20	38		1		1		

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives the numbers of new cases of both forms of the disease, together with the deaths therefrom. The figures include all primary cases and other cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
Years	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-								
1-				1				
2-	1		1					
5-								
10-								
15-	2			1				
20-	1							
25-				1				
35-	2							
45-								
55-								
65-	1							
75 and upwards								
Totals	7		1	3				

Following the inception of the National Health Service Act, 1948, treatment became the responsibility of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board.

Full co-operation exists with the Tuberculosis Officer covering the Rainford area.

